

MAY/  
JUNE 2022

# BCTGM *News*

VOLUME 24  
NUMBER 3



**BCTGM STEWARD FEATURE • Pages 8-11**





# *the* PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

## Importance of EDUCATION In Servicing Local Unions

As an International Union, our goal has always been to be one of the best educated unions in North America. We want all of our International staff, Local Union officers, and shop stewards to be armed with the best tools and given every opportunity to succeed as representatives of this great Union.

We also want to be known as a Union that provides exceptional service to our members. We do this through negotiating high quality contracts, handling grievances and arbitrations, representing workers with management and assisting in organizing. This is how service meets education.

One of the best ways that we can help service our Local Unions is through shop steward training.

For many new workers, the first contact they have with their shop steward influences what they think of the Union as a whole. If a worker has a good first experience with their shop steward, their view of the Union will be strong and positive.

This is especially important in right-to-work (for less) states where our Local Unions are continuously working on signing up new members. We call this 'internal organizing' and no one is better at doing this than our shop stewards.

To that end, we make steward training an important component of our education program. Steward training is administered by the BCTGM International Research & Education Department and is taught by the Director of the Department, Regional International Vice Presidents and International Representatives.

BCTGM stewards leave these trainings better equipped to deal with the challenges of being a steward and can see their position as part of a much larger role within the Union.

Well-educated and informed stewards are the bedrock of a successful Local Union. As we say

frequently, the first line of defense for every Local Union are shop stewards.

Knowledgeable stewards can handle grievances efficiently and promptly. Well-respected stewards can help educate newcomers on the contract, the structure of the Union and important issues facing the labor movement. A legion of well-respected stewards keeps management compliant and the provisions of the collective bargaining agreement enforced.


When shop stewards take care of business, the local is stronger for it. This results in a stronger membership, which translates into better contracts when its time to negotiate.

As you'll see in this issue, our steward training programs have picked up this year as threats of the pandemic have waned. In just the past few months, our educators have traveled throughout North America training hundreds of stewards at dozens of Local Unions.

Quite simply, it's Union math: Density plus Solidarity plus Mobilization equals Power.


There is power in education. Never stop learning, brothers and sisters!

— Anthony Shelton, BCTGM International President



# BCTGM

## News



Official Publication of the Bakery, Confectionery, Tobacco  
Workers and Grain Millers International Union  
10401 Connecticut Avenue, Kensington, Maryland 20895-3961  
(301) 933-8600  
[www.bctgm.org](http://www.bctgm.org)

**CALM**  
**ACPS**

Canadian  
Association  
of Labour  
Media  
Association  
conferences  
on 11 provide  
assistance

**Anthony Shelton, Editor**  
**Corrina A. Christensen, Assistant Editor**

**BCTGM General Executive Board**  
**President** Anthony Shelton • **Secretary-Treasurer** David Woods  
**Vice Presidents** Shad Clark • Roger Miller  
Ron Piercey • Brad Schmidt • Zachary Townsend

**BCTGM General Executive Board Members**  
Joyce Alston • Wally Borgan • Pierre Luc Doucet • Aaron Graves  
Paul LaBuda • Earl Lublow • Letitia Malone • Keith Morris, Sr.  
Gary Oskoian • Cameron Taylor • Doyle Townson  
Jeff Webb • Donald Woods

**ILCA**

LABOR COMMUNICATIONS  
INTERNATIONAL  
AFL-CIO-CLC • NO 3

BCTGM News (ISSN 1525-4860) is published bi-monthly by the Bakery, Confectionery, Tobacco Workers and Grain Millers International Union, 10401 Connecticut Avenue, Kensington, MD 20895-3961. Periodicals postage paid at Kensington, MD and at additional mailing offices. Subscription to new members only. Postmaster: Send address changes to BCTGM News, 10401 Connecticut Avenue, Kensington, MD 20895-3961.



# General Mills Local Unions Ratify New Master Contract

**The BCTGM General Mills Bargaining Conference reached a new four-year master agreement that covers more than 1,000 members at General Mills.**

The new agreement expires on May 9, 2026.

The Conference includes delegates from all participating General Mills Local Unions. A policy committee from different bargaining units voted overwhelmingly to accept the master agreement.

Negotiations were held during a week-long collective bargaining session in Minneapolis in early May. The BCTGM negotiating committee, led by International Vice Presidents Roger Miller (East-Central Region) and Brad Schmidt (Midwestern Region), included International Representatives Jason Davis and Karrie Setters, Business Agent/Organizer Jared Cummings and Local Union Officers Scott Baer, Local 36G (Buffalo, N.Y.); Chantel Mendenhall, Local 218 (Kansas City, Mo.); Tim Cox, Local 109G (Great Falls, Mont.); and Danny Gonzalez, Local 389G (Avon, Iowa).

Negotiations for a new master agreement with General Mills came amidst a general labor shortage in manufacturing and unrest among rank-and-file workers who wanted recognition for their “essential” service during the pandemic.

According to East-Central Region Vice President Miller, who acted as chief negotiator, both sides came to the table wanting to negotiate a fair contract.

“Our bargaining committee told us that union members wanted increased pension benefits, low health care costs and increased sick leave. As a committee, we made this our priority and through a lot of hard work we were able to reach all of our goals during negotiations,” said Miller

The new agreement includes four increases to the pension multiplier, increased sick leave and vacation that begins at an earlier date for new hires. The new contract also keeps the cost of health and dental insurance affordable. Wages are negotiated at the Local Union level.

“We achieved a fair settlement that rewards our members for their hard work and dedication, especially during the pandemic. The new contract makes General Mills an attractive employment option for a new generation of manufacturing workers,” concluded Miller.

The master agreement covers workers in the following locations: Buffalo Cereal and Buffalo Flour (Local 36G); a flour mill in Kansas City (Local 218); a flour mill in Great Falls (Local 109G); a flour mill in Avon (Local 389G); and a flour mill in Vernon, Calif. (Local 37).





# BCTGM Intl. Officers Visit BBU Bakeries in Texas



Outside the BBU Rockwell, Tex. high performance bakery are (right to left) BCTGM Intl. Pres. Anthony Shelton, L. 111 Chairman of Trustees Calvin Brown, L. 111 Pres. Ronald Thompson, L. 111 Bus. Agt. David Menefee and BCTGM Intl. Secy.-Treas. David Woods.

**BCTGM International President Anthony Shelton and International Secretary-Treasurer David Woods recently spent time touring Bimbo Bakeries USA (BBU) bakeries and visiting with Local 111 (Dallas/Ft. Worth, Texas) union members.**

Accompanied by Local 111 Business Agent David Menefee, the International Officers spent the afternoon at the BBU facility in Rockwall, Texas. The highly specialized bakery is one of only four high performance bakeries owned by BBU in the United States. The BCTGM also represents workers at the other three high performance bakeries in Lehigh Valley, Pa., Topeka, Kansas and Elkhart, Indiana.



Eric Mitchell is an order filler at the Fort Worth bakery.



Michael Cruz is a dough mixer at the Rockwall bakery.



Alex Valdez (left) is Chief Shop Steward at the Fort Worth bakery and Erasmo Panigagua is an order filler.



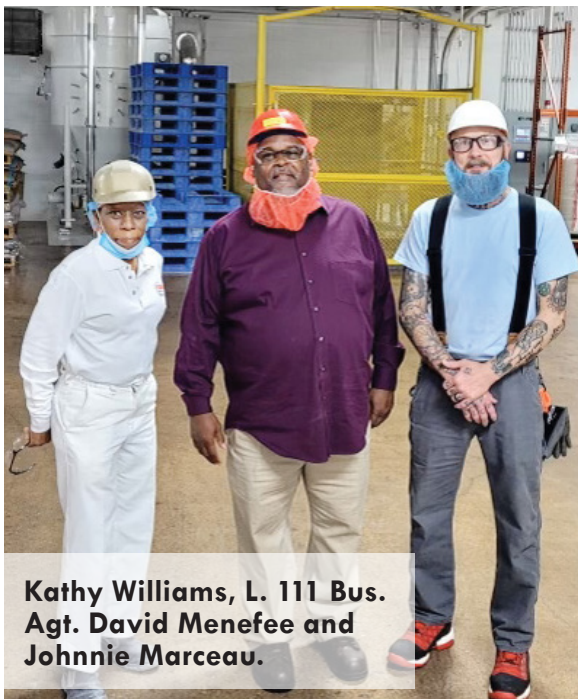
Martha Mijares is a machine operator/extruder icing at the Rockwall bakery.



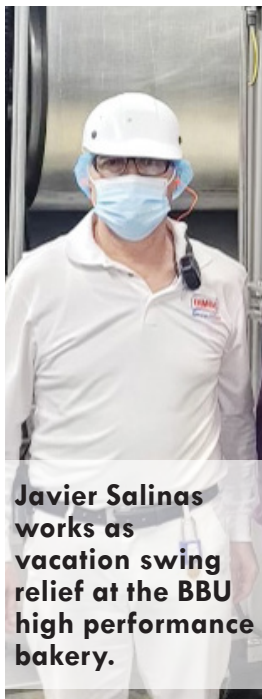
The group was also able to meet with union members when they toured the distribution side of the BBU Mrs. Baird's Bakery in Ft. Worth, Texas.

"It is important to me as a union leader to visit as many facilities where BCTGM

members work as possible. I enjoy meeting our members and watching them at work. This is what service to our members looks like. I want them to know that we are out here fighting for them every day and in every way," reflects International President Shelton.



**Kathy Williams, L. 111 Bus. Agt. David Menefee and Johnnie Marceau.**



**Javier Salinas works as vacation swing relief at the BBU high performance bakery.**



**Cathy Nolan works in distribution at the BBU Fort Worth bakery.**



**Mike Stone (left) has been a union member for nearly 41 years. Pictured here with L. 111 Bus. Agt. David Menefee.**



**Maricela Rodriguez is an order filler at the Mrs. Baird's Bakery.**



**Long Le is a general utility worker at the Rockwall bakery.**



# Former **Local 719** Members **SPEAK OUT** on **\$2.3 Million** Nabisco/Mondelez Settlement

**In 2016, Mondelez targeted three of the strongest and boldest union leaders of BCTGM Local 719 inside the Nabisco bakery in Fairlawn, N.J.** One by one, the union members were called into a room, interrogated by a company “investigator” and charged with phony violations. Without explanation, all three were fired and immediately escorted out of the bakery where they had been employed for decades.

As reported in the last issue of the *BCTGM NEWS*, those three former Local 719 members received a monetary award totaling \$2.3 million, resulting from the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) decision that ruled they were unlawfully fired by Mondelez because they were active union leaders within the bakery.

The Fairlawn bakery was

shuttered by Mondelez in July 2021 after 63 years of making iconic Nabisco products. There was never a chance the three would ever be reinstated and return to the plant with their heads held high. We caught up with the former Local 719 members to get their feelings about the unjust firings and Labor Board settlement.

**Nafis Vlashi (above right) had worked at the bakery for 27 years** when he was terminated. He worked as an icing mixer and served as a shop steward. He is also a former Local 719 Vice President and served two terms as Local 719 President.

“They called me in first,” recalls Vlashi. “I was a thorn in their side because we were working without a contract and I wouldn’t let them





do anything to workers,” recalls Vlashi.

When asked his feelings about finally receiving the settlement money he sadly says, “It doesn’t pay for what happened. They wanted us gone at any cost and fought us for six years. Personally, this destroyed my life. I went through tremendous financial and personal struggles. Money doesn’t buy happiness,” Vlashi notes.

Working now in Wayne, N.J. as a bus driver, Vlashi says he would go through it all over again if forced. “I am a fighter for my people and I wasn’t going to let them destroy us all. We couldn’t have got through this without the unwavering support of the International Union and President Durkee and President Shelton – who saw this fight through to the end. I don’t have the words to describe the feelings of gratitude I have for my Union’s support. I will always be grateful to Local 719, which is no more. I will forever support my Union brothers and sisters at Nabisco bakeries around the country. I will do anything to help whenever and wherever my Union family needs me. I am bonded to the BCTGM for life.”



**Bruce Sherrer (above), was a shop steward with more than 30 years at the bakery** when he was terminated. He was a delegate to three BCTGM International Union Conventions, served as a Vice President of the Local and was an Executive Board member for more than 20 years.

“At the end of the day, I knew I was targeted because of my union involvement and our fight to keep Mondelez from shutting the plant. The three of us were the most active. Just before the meeting, I was warned about handing out union literature in the plant. Then, I got a flag and put up a ‘UNITED WE STAND’ banner between our locker rooms. That didn’t go over well with the company who said it was a political statement. So, we took it to social media and told everyone that Mondelez makes workers take down the United States flag.

“I will be forever grateful to the Union for all it did, and even the Labor Board for ruling justly in our favor. But you know what? This settlement took six years and is sort of anti-climactic. They shut the plant so we never had the opportunity to go back into the bakery and say – ‘Look at what they did to us – and we WON!’ We never had that opportunity and that is the saddest part of our story,” concludes Sherrer.



**Claudio Gutierrez (left) was a shop steward for 24 of his 26 years** at the Fairlawn bakery when he was unjustly fired.

“What happened to us was very, very sad,” recalls Gutierrez. “They had no real reasons for firing us other than we were very active within our union and stood up for our workers.”

Like Vlashi and Sherrer, Gutierrez commends his Union for helping to fight back against Mondelez. “The International Union and Local 719 were very supportive. But the fight took too long – six years. Money isn’t everything. For us, it was the principle. What they did to us was wrong and we wanted to come back to work when our fight was over. With the settlement, I can breathe a bit better and I’ll always be grateful that my Union stood up and fought for us. But we all still grieve. It was a sweet but sad revenge. We have all lost so much. Our jobs. Our plant. Our Union brothers and sisters. Our community,” Gutierrez says.

Gutierrez notes that he would have had 32 years in the plant when Mondelez closed the bakery. “We all grieve what was and what happened but we keep in close touch. I still have my Nabisco Union family. They can’t take that away.”



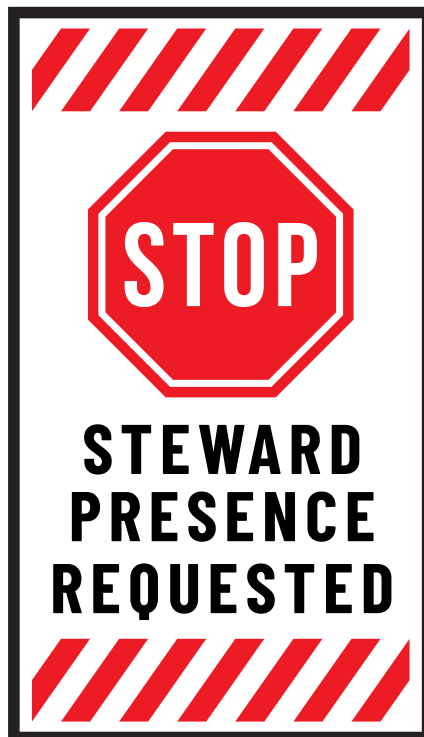


# BCTGM STEWARDS EDUCATION SP

**From Oklahoma City, Oklahoma and Salt Lake City, Utah to Halifax, Nova Scotia and Moncton, New Brunswick in Canada, BCTGM stewards throughout North America have successfully completed training in the first half of 2022 thanks to a massive education drive led by the BCTGM International Union.**

The increase in educational offerings comes as the International Union fully resumes its services to Local Unions following a nearly two-year pause during the COVID-19 pandemic. Many of the trainings have been led by Research and Education Director Matthew Clark and assisted by International Representatives and Local Union officers in BCTGM Regions from coast to coast. Other trainings have included International Secretary-Treasurer David Woods, Director of Organization John Price and International Vice Presidents.

Curriculum for the steward training program includes the legal rights and responsibilities of stewards, union member communication, grievance



investigation, grievance writing, new member orientation, health and safety and internal organizing.

Stewards attending the education conference came from a variety of employers, including Frito Lay, Bimbo Bakeries USA, Archer Daniels Midland, Nestle Purina, Amalgamated Sugar, Swedish Match, Shawnee Milling, Canada Bread, Quaker Oats and Ferrero Group.

Despite the fact the stewards came from different

companies and industries, many of the challenges they face at the worksite are the same. Some of the stewards cited aggressive managers and supervisors. Others agreed that their employers cared more about the bottom line than the well-being of their workers. Many said that their employers tried to ignore the provisions of the collective bargaining agreement.

With this in mind, the training used the stewards many different experiences on the shop floor as teaching moments and the stewards learned from one another. Check out the photos of these proud BCTGM stewards in shops throughout North America on pages 8-11.



**The Local 366G (Oklahoma City, Okla.) stewards and executive board** spent one full day reviewing local union administration and grievance handling. Pictured on the cover of this issue, L. 366G stewards visited the Oklahoma State capital during their lunch break.



# SPREADS ACROSS NORTH AMERICA



## Twelve Local 117G stewards

who work at the flour mill in Shawnee, Okla. attended a one-day steward training hosted by the International Union.



**"New stewards can sometimes be intimidated about all the roles they have to play as a union steward, but the more senior stewards can really help them learn how to manage these responsibilities."**

*— Walter Prevett,  
President, Local 117G*

**Local 65 (Oklahoma City, Okla.)** training took place at the Oklahoma Federation of Labor headquarters.



Cont'd Pg. 10



**Following a joint training for the stewards of Local 282G (Rupert, Idaho) and 283G (Twin Falls, Idaho),** who are employed by Amalgamated Sugar in Idaho, Union members led a tour of the Mini Cassia Sugar Beet facility where Local 282G members process sugar from sugar beets. Pictured here, from left to right, are Chris Fowler, Shawn Fowler, Intl. Dir. Research & Education Matthew Clark, Intl. Secy.-Treas. David Woods, Cody Lindsay, Western Reg. Intl. Vice Pres. Shad Clark and Craig Lindsay.



**“Our stewards play a key role in signing up new members and educating them about their rights, and the union.”**

*— Floyd Hoggan,  
President Local 401,  
Salt Lake City, UT*

**Forty stewards from Amalgamated Sugar** attended a two-day training in Burley, Idaho that was led by Intl. Secy.-Treas. David Woods, Western Region Intl. Vice Pres. Shad Clark and Intl. Director of Research & Education Matthew Clark.



**Intl. Secy.-Treas. David Woods and Western Region Intl. Vice Pres. Shad Clark assisted with the two-day steward training for Local 401 in Salt Lake City, Utah.**





**In Decatur, Ill., Local 103G stewards from five different units at the ADM facility** gathered for a one-day training led by Midwest Region Intl. Vice Pres. Brad Schmidt, Intl. Rep. Jason Davis and Intl. Dir. of Research & Education Matthew Clark.

**Local 6 in Philadelphia, Pa. has held several shop stewards trainings** led by Intl. Dir. of Organization John Price and Local 6 officers. Stewards who completed the most recent educational training came from Kellogg's, Bimbo Bakeries USA, Ardent Mills and Penske.



**Local 196T stewards from Swedish Match in Owensboro, Ky. successfully completed a two-day training** in April led by Intl. Reps. Randy Fulk and Derrik Byrd. Local 196T Pres. Brent Clary and Vice Pres. Melody McKinney also attended the training.



**"Stewards are in the best position to understand workers' concerns and priorities on the plant floor, organize with them to take action and communicate important issues to the employer. This is why steward education is vital to every local union."**

*— BCTGM International Director of Organization John Price*

**Local 406 stewards from Moncton, New Brunswick and Halifax, Nova Scotia** attended a two-day training in Muncton led by Canadian Region Intl. Vice Pres. Ron Piercey and Intl. Organizer Karl Walker.



# CONVENTION CALL

**TO ALL AFFILIATED LOCAL UNIONS:**

May 1, 2022

## **GREETINGS:**

The International Constitution provides, in Article III, Section 2: "The regular Convention shall be held every four years. It shall convene on such date and in such place as the International President, with the approval of the General Executive Board, shall designate."

"The International Secretary Treasurer shall issue a Convention Call to all local unions in the third month immediately preceding the convening of the regular Convention."

"The Convention shall not extend beyond ten days of sessions, except by two thirds vote of the duly accredited delegates."

**In accordance with the above, you are hereby notified that the Forty-First Constitutional Convention of the Bakery, Confectionery, Tobacco Workers and Grain Millers International Union will convene in the city of Las Vegas, Nevada, beginning at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, July 27, 2022, and concluding on Tuesday, August 2, 2022.**

## **QUALIFICATIONS OF DELEGATES**

Article III, Section 5 of the International Constitution states that: "Every delegate to the Convention must (1) have been a continuously good-standing, dues-paying member of the International Union and local union the delegate represents for at least two continuous years next prior to election; (2) be provided with properly attested credentials from the local union the delegate represents; (3) have worked at least two years immediately preceding the Convention as a wage earner in any branch of the trades, except for periods of layoff (including layoffs arising from plant shutdowns) and terminations being grieved, not to exceed twelve (12) continuous months, under the jurisdiction of the International Union or as an officer or employee of the International Union or a local union; (4) be able to show such number of Union labels as the General Executive Board may require."

(The General Executive Board has waived the requirement of showing union labels.)

"Exempted from the requirements of (1) and (3) above shall be delegates whose local unions have not been in existence for two years, provided that the continuously good-standing, dues-paying and wage-earning period of such delegates are not less than six months."

Article III, Section 4 provides: "Each local union may elect an alternate delegate at the same time the regular delegates are elected. Alternates must have the same qualifications as delegates. In the event of the inability of any delegate to attend the Convention because of an emergency, the alternate may replace the delegate, provided that the local union notifies the International Secretary-Treasurer of the change."

## **ELECTION OF DELEGATES**

The election of delegates is subject to provisions of the International Constitution and the Labor Management Reporting and Disclosure Act of 1959 (Landrum Griffin Law).

## **REPRESENTATION OF DELEGATES**

The International Constitution in Article III, Section 4, provides: "Local unions in good-standing including those which have been organized under the jurisdiction of the International Union six (6) months previous to the Convention shall be entitled to representation."

"Local unions with a monthly average International per capita tax on its dues-paying membership of

less than 251 shall be entitled to one (1) delegate	from 1,401 to 1,800 to six (6) delegates;
from 251 to 500 to two (2) delegates;	from 1,801 to 2,200 to seven (7) delegates;
from 501 to 750 to three (3) delegates;	from 2,201 to 2,600 to eight (8) delegates;
from 751 to 1,000 to four (4) delegates;	from 2,601 to 3,000 to nine (9) delegates;
from 1,001 to 1,400 to five (5) delegates;	over 3,001 to ten (10) delegates;

but in no case shall a local union be entitled to more than ten (10) delegates. Any two or three locals having less than one hundred members each located within an area of 250 miles may combine in the selection of a delegate. No other local unions may combine in the selection of a delegate and no delegate shall represent more than three such local unions."

"The number of members of a union shall be the average monthly per capita tax that it has paid to the International Union on its dues-paying membership for twelve (12) months inclusive of the fourth month (April) previous to the Convention, as certified by the International Secretary Treasurer to the Credentials Committee."

"Delegates representing up to twenty five (25) members shall be entitled to one vote, and to one additional vote for each additional twenty five members or major fraction thereof they represent. The number of votes of local unions which are represented by more than one delegate shall be equally divided to the nearest whole number among all their delegates."



## CREDENTIALS OF DELEGATES

Article III, Section 6 provides: "At least forty (40) days prior to the opening of the Convention, duplicates of credentials on blanks furnished by the International Secretary Treasurer from the authorized local union officer shall be received by the International Secretary-Treasurer, or shall be postmarked not later than forty five (45) days prior to the opening of the Convention, in an envelope properly addressed to the International Secretary Treasurer."

"The International Secretary Treasurer shall cause to be published in the official journal of the International Union, in the last issue before the Convention, but not less than fifteen (15) days prior to the convening of the Convention, a list of all the delegates elect and the local union each delegate represents."

"Delegates to the Convention shall present the original credentials bearing the seal of the local union and signatures of the authorized officers of their respective locals to the Committee on Credentials. Protests against the delegates must be in written affidavit form, stating the specific grounds for protest and signed and sworn to by the party objecting to the seating of the delegate. These affidavits must be transmitted by registered or certified mail to the International Secretary Treasurer (with a copy to the local union) and the envelope, properly addressed to the International Secretary Treasurer, must be postmarked at least ten (10) days prior to the convening of the Convention."

## COMPENSATION OF DELEGATES

Article III, Section 7. "The International Union shall pay each delegate in attendance at the regular Convention and registered at a facility designated by the International President as hosting the Convention as compensation \$595 and an amount equal to the cost of regular coach transportation by air from the delegate's home city to the Convention city and return by direct route; provided, however, that such delegates remain in attendance upon the Convention commencing with its first day's session until its adjournment and remain registered in such designated facility for the same time period. Compensation and transportation for special convention shall be set by the General Executive Board."

"Transportation and compensation of protested delegates shall not be furnished unless and until such delegates have been seated as accredited."

## CONVENTION RESOLUTIONS

Article III, Section 10. "All resolutions by local unions to be submitted to the Convention either must be received at International Headquarters at least forty (40) days prior to the opening of the Convention, or must be postmarked in a properly addressed envelope at least forty five (45) days prior to the opening of the Convention. Each resolution must deal with but one subject matter, be submitted in triplicate and each copy signed only by all delegates-elect, or a majority of the Executive Board."

"Resolutions by the General Executive Board may be introduced at the Convention, provided such resolutions have the approval of a majority of the General Executive Board. All other resolutions may only be introduced with the approval of a two thirds vote of the Convention."

Local unions are urged to forward all resolutions as soon as they are formulated in order that they may be printed for distribution to the delegates.

In order to facilitate the printing of resolutions, each resolution must deal with only one subject, be typewritten, and only one side of each page should be used.

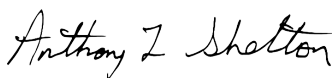
## HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

Information with reference to hotel accommodations, etc., will be forwarded upon receipt of the delegate's certified credential.

## GENERAL

We hope that your local union will have full representation at the Forty-First Constitutional Convention of the Bakery, Confectionery, Tobacco Workers and Grain Millers International Union, AFL CIO, CLC, in Las Vegas, Nevada. Your participation is essential in assisting us in setting priorities during the ensuing four years in important activities relative to economic advancement of our membership, political action activities, and the organizing of the unorganized workers in our jurisdiction.

**FRATERNALLY YOURS,**



**Anthony L. Shelton**  
International President



**David G. Woods**  
International Secretary-Treasurer

## GENERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD

Shad Clark  
Roger Miller  
Brad Schmidt  
Ron Piercey  
Zach Townsend

Joyce Alston  
Walter Borgan  
Pierre Luc Doucet  
Aaron Graves

Paul LaBuda  
Earl Lublow  
Letitia Malone  
Keith Morris, Sr.

Gary Oskoian  
Cameron Taylor  
Doyle Townson  
Jeff Webb  
Donald Woods



# Honoring the Life and History of **MOTHER JONES**

**M**any may remember the famous war cry, “Pray for the dead, and fight like hell for the living!” by Mother Jones, yet few remember much more about the legendary activist.

Mother Jones was one of the most famous women in America during the late 1800s and early 1900s. Articles about her regularly appeared in magazines and newspapers, and for many working Americans, she has achieved renowned, even iconic, status. But today, few remember much about Mother Jones, who battled corporate presidents and politicians, who was jailed repeatedly for organizing workers and who spent much of her life recruiting thousands of workers into the labor movement.

Her fighting spirit lives on and every year on

May 1 in Chicago, workers and activists gather to remember Mother Jones on her birthday. This year two cakes donated by BCTGM Local 1 (Chicago) were center pieces of the Mother Jones May Day Birthday Party held at the Irish American Heritage Center in Chicago.

The cakes were baked and decorated by 39-year Local 1 member David Vesecky of Vesecky Bakery in Berwyn, Illinois. The family-owned bakery has been in business since 1904.

A union-made cake for Mother Jones can be traced back to her 100th birthday party on May 1, 1930. In a photo that made the front page of newspapers around America, Mother Jones cut her birthday cake that included the union logo of the Bakery and Confectionery Workers International Union of America.

The 2022 celebration included labor leaders, activists and a wide range of artists. All proceeds from the birthday event went to the Chicago Statue Campaign which is raising funds to create a Mother Jones statue for the city of Chicago.



The cakes celebrating Mother Jones were baked and decorated by 39-year Local 1 member David Vesecky of Vesecky Bakery in Berwyn, Illinois.



## Ohio Senate Race

BCTGM representatives from Local 19 (Cleveland, Ohio) recently presented U. S. Rep. Tim Ryan (D) with a BCTGM-PAC donation to support his campaign to win Ohio's open Senate seat. Pictured here are (from left to right) L. 19 Fin. Secy. Phil Lukic, Rep. Ryan and L. 19 Vice Pres. Ed Thomas. Ryan has a long record of advocating for Ohio's working families and is endorsed by the BCTGM and more than a dozen other unions and labor affiliated organizations.











# Union-Owned Union Plus Mortgage Company

Whether you are in the market to purchase a home or refinance an existing mortgage, Union Plus Mortgage Company provides services designed specifically to help union families. Every mortgage provides special hardship assistance in case of disability, lay off, lock out, or strike.

Union Plus Mortgage Company is owned by the AFL-CIO, Union Privilege, and a group of unions.

-  **Convenient online application and unionized loan officers to assist you on the phone**
-  **Competitive rates on a wide-range of mortgage options including conventional, FHA, and VA loans**
-  **\$500 gift card after closing for purchasing or refinancing – lots of options to pick from**
-  **Special benefits for first-time homebuyers**

**Call 1-855-UNION-53 to speak with a loan officer or visit [unionplasmortgage.com](http://unionplasmortgage.com) to learn more and apply online!**



Printed in the U.S.A.

# **NOW LIVE: 2022 CONVENTION WEBSITE**

**bctgm2022convention.org**



**Don't miss a beat, bookmark it NOW!**  
**bctgm2022convention.org | #BCTGM2022**

